BEAUTIFUL PARKS AND HOME TO THE ARTS



August 2012

**Officers** 

President Jimmy Gunn Woodmere Dr. 277-7667

Jessie Donaldson 1st Vice President Forest Grove Ct. 271-4428

Chris Brodie 2nd Vice President Salisbury Place 277-5960

> Mable Pryor Secretary Arbor Glen Dr. 260-2941

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# Woodmere News

**President's Commentary** 

**Jimmy Gunn** 

Dear WNA Neighbors:

I hope all of you are making it through this very hot and dry summer. I thought this month I would describe what makes a good neighbor. The place we decide to do our living is called our home. It ends up being some place next to someone else. This is where the whole neighbor thing comes into play. If you have to live next door to someone, then you need to be a good neighbor. What does this involve? Mow your lawn on a regular basis. Not doing so drops the property value of your house and the houses of all those around you. Control your dog. You need to keep it on a leash and pick up after when it does its thing. If it is a noisy dog, talk to your veterinarian about solutions to excessive barking or whining. Practice parking etiquette. Park in front of your house, not blocking anyone's access. And do not park on the grass. If you are going to have a party invite your neighbors or give them fair warning. Shut it down at a reasonable hour. Neighbors need sleep. Abide by the city sanitation rules and do not leave your garbage can out day after day. Garbage attracts vermin, insects and other pests. No one likes to look at those containers for more than 24 hours on a street curb. Also, make sure that the container is on your property, not on a city right-of-way. If your chain link or privacy fence needs repair, fix it. You not only have a security issue, but people do not like looking in your backyard. Pick up the litter and trash that accumulates in or around your area. A clean neighborhood makes a statement to others. Remember the broken window theory. One broken window brings on another. Above all, touch base with your neighbors regularly and keep them in the loop. Let someone know you will be out of town for a few days. Be nice to your neighbors and get to know them. Good neighbors help each other. Let's all become good neighbors.





Neighborhood Association Meeting Thursday, August 9, 2012 6:30 p.m. Museum of Fine Arts Auditorium

**Guest Speaker: Marjorie Smith** 

Montgomery Election Center Outreach Coordinator Topic: "Absentee Voting and Redistricting of Montgomery" The WOODMERE NEWS is the official publication of the Woodmere Neighborhood Association, PO Box 231473, Montgomery, Alabama 36123.

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This issue was edited by Sam Whatley

# **City Contacts**

Mayor's Office 241-2000

City Council 241-2097

Animal Control 241-2970

Police 241-2651

Fire 241-2400

Ordinance Violations 311

For all emergencies, call 911.

## **Financial Report**

### Melissa Martin, Treasurer

	May	June	July	Year to Date	Budget
Beginning Balance	3248.46	2322.12	3221.55	2336.46	
Income					
Membership Dues	200.00	925.00	75.00	2374.00	3750.00
Advertisements	0.00	60.00	0.00	60.00	0.00
T-Shirts	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Miscellaneous	0.00	0.00	0.00	25.00	0.00
Total Income	200.00	985.00	75.00	2459.00	3750.00
Expenses					
Newsletter	130.90	0.0	0.00	317.90	1500.00
Day in the Park	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	750.00
Administrative Expenses	0.0	77.07	0.00	77.07	805.00
Meeting Room	0.00	0.00	0.00	100.00	200.00
Entrance Signs	995.44	0.00	0.00	995.44	0.0
Website	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	75.00
Yard Sale	0.00	8.50	0.00	8.50	150.00
Crime Prevention	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	100.00
Spring & Fall Clean-Ups	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	100.00
Post Office Box Rental	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	70.00
Total Expenses	1126.34	85.57	.00	1498.91	3750.00
Ending Balance	2322.12	3221.55	3296.55	3296.55	



6021 Arbor Glen Drive Montgomery, AL 36117

THANK YOU WNA BOARD

As a resident of Woodmere, I would like to thank you for the changes that you have made in this neighborhood. At first I didn't know what you did, but as time passed I could see your good work.

First, I noticed the new trees planted in the park, and the neighborhood clean up each year. The stop signs were really needed and have slowed the traffic in that area considerably, making it safer for those who walk, and helped to prevent accidents for those of us who drive. The new entrance signs have made a big difference, and have made our entrances more attractive. The increased police presence in the neighborhood has helped to deter crime. At present, the crime rate seems improved as well.

These are just a few of the things that are obvious to me. I am sure there are others that I may not have noticed. Again, thank you for helping to make our neighborhood great.

Carol Ray

# **Painted Horses**By Linda Donaldson

Today at the park
While I was walking around,
I began to hear
The sweetest sound.

Like the lifting music From a fairy tale, As soft as a breeze On my ears it fell.

And then I saw them Such a beautiful sight! All colorful and shiny Like the day's sunlight.

They were painted horses All red, blue and green, With high prancing feet What a fanciful scene!



I had to smile At the sight they made, Going 'round and 'round While the music played.

Then I thought to myself Right then and there.... I could spend the afternoon Without a single care.

So around and around For the rest of the day, On a painted horse I rode my troubles away!

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# Pass it Forward: Being a Good Neighbor

### By Carolyn Blackstock

On any given day around Limestone Court and the townhouse block of Woodmere Loop, you will see two men voluntarily mowing grass, weed-eating and edging property belonging to their neighbors. They do not have to do this, as they have their own yards to maintain. They do this because they simply want to help.

As good neighbors, we all have an interest in keeping our property looking nice. We want to let people know that in Woodmere, we are proud of our neighborhood and its friendly inhabitants who care about each other. Additionally, maintaining our yards has a positive effect on what is known as "curb appeal" when the time comes to sell.

As good neighbors, we should reach out to help each other, because that is what good neighbors do. Have you ever moved your neighbor's garbage can around back when you moved yours? Have you ever personally welcomed a new resident on your block? Have you ever hired a neighbor's child to perform some task so he/she could make some extra money? Have you ever sent a sick neighbor a "Get Well" card or taken a meal by the house?

Rick Fredrick and Lebarron Gamble have chosen to mow their neighbors' grass, both in a common area and in the grassy strips facing the streets. This is their contribution. What is yours?



Rick Fredrick (left) and Lebarron Gamble (right) take a break one hot afternoon. Together, neighbors can make a difference!

Photo by Carolyn Blackstock

### WOODMERE NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION QUARTERLY MEETING THURSDAY, May 10, 2012 MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS AUDITORIUM

The guest speaker Jeff Downes, Deputy Mayor/Chief of Staff of the City of Montgomery, was introduced by the President, Jimmy Gunn. The following observations were made:

- \* We have more police officers now than ever.
- \* In 1977, crime statistics were higher than they are today.
- \* We have a shot spotter: A device that determines where shots come from, and dispatches policemen to that site.
- \* We will bring a major sports network to Crampton Bowl in January, 2012.
- \* Walkable communities will be established.
- \* We eliminated recycling program to reduce cost; working on facility to take recyclables out.
- (Q) Eastern Boulevard is in decline. Two hotels in our area are declining. Is there a plan for the hotels? How much decline has to go on before the city steps in?
- (A) Certain areas qualify for federal funds to uplift the area. Woodmere doesn't qualify. Pedestrian- oriented development is the way of the future.
- (Q) Does the city have some way to force owners of town homes to fix concrete?
- (A) Yes, but the owner must agree to an assessment. Jeff agreed to assist with concrete on properties on the town houses.

A reminder of the trash can ordinance: Trash cans placed at the entrance of the street before 7:00 a.m. must be returned by 7:00 p.m. Violators can be punished by a fine of \$200 or jail time. Public education is recommended and encouraged to solve the problem.

#### **New Business:**

- \* Will Glascow will replace Jimmy Gunn as Chairman of the Parks Committee.
- \* Jessie Donaldson is overseeing the erection of a 30 foot flag pole at Woodmere Park.
- \* Cable boxes will be covered or painted. Mail boxes will be painted.
- \* May is membership month. All residents are encouraged to join the neighborhood association and recruit new members. We need at least 150 members to continue to make improvements .

The meeting was adjourned.

Mable Pryor, Secretary

To submit an article, a letter to the editor or a suggestion, email it to info@woodmeremontogmery.com.

# **Elections are Coming!**

Montgomery Election Center Outreach Coordinator Marjorie Smith is scheduled to speak to the Woodmere Neighborhood Association General Meeting on Tuesday August 9, 2012 at the auditorium of the Montgomery Museum of Fine Arts to:

- 1. Encourage citizens to vote in the Special Statewide Constitution Amendment Election Sept.18th and the General Election Nov.6th.
- 2. Remind citizens that they must be registered to vote in Montgomery County to vote in this county.
- 3. Provide important information regarding Absentee Voting.
- 4. Discuss registration and absentee voting deadlines for both elections.
- 5. Present the 2012 General Election Ballot Listing that shows what offices and candidates will be on the ballot.



Shall the following Amendment be adopted to the Constitution of Alabama?

#### Proposed Statewide Amendment

Proposing an amendment to the Constitution of Alabama of 1901, to provide adequate funding for the State General Fund budget, to prevent the mass release of prisoners from Alabama prisons, and to protect critical health services to Alabama children, elderly, and mothers by transferring funds from the Alabama Trust Fund to the State General Fund beginning with the state's 2012-2013 fiscal year and concluding with the state's 2014-2015 fiscal year; to provide a new procedure for distributions made from the Alabama Trust Fund beginning 2012-2013 fiscal year; to create a County and Municipal Government Capital Improvement Trust Fund advisory committee; and to provide further for distributions made from the County and Municipal Government Capital Improvement Trust Fund. (Proposed by Act No. 2012-490)

Vote either Yes or No on September 18th at your voting precinct.

#### WNA eNews

Check out the WNA eNews online at <a href="www.woodmeremontgomery.com">www.woodmeremontgomery.com</a> under the Newsletter Section. If you wish to be included in the distribution list, email <a href="info@woodmeremontgomery.com">info@woodmeremontgomery.com</a>.

#### **Letters to the Editor**

6028 Vineyard Lane

Before Woodmere boasts of its parks and arts, it should boast the respect that neighbors have for each other, especially where pet ownership is concerned. I do not consider it neighborly to have to clean up behind someone else's dog in the pine straw of my flower beds.

I take my two dogs on walks through the neighborhood expecting them to do what dogs do. I prepare ahead of time to take care of their "business" when they do their "business". I look forward to the day when my neighbors do the same.

Tell me, what is the solution?

#### W. L. Croskey



6020 Woodrun Court June 30, 2012

#### **RUMMAGE SALE**

Thank you for sponsoring the rummage sale. My sale was very successful. The balloons on the poles at the end of the streets directed traffic to my area. Not only did I sell all of the items I had placed out to sell, there was so much traffic that I went inside and brought out more items.

Thank you for your interest in our neighborhood.

Ann Marshall

#### Like us on Facebook!

#### Mark Your Calendar

August-WNA General Meeting August 9th

September –
Statewide Constitution
Amendment Election
September 18th

October – Neighborhood Night Out – October 16<sup>th</sup> In the park—Look for food and music

November
General Election –
November 6
WNA General Meeting –
November 8

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# 2012 Membership Form

Woodmere Neighborhood Association PO Box 231473 Montgomery, Alabama 36123 www.woodmeremontgomery.com info@woodmeremontgomery.com

NAME	NAME			
NAME	NAME			
STREET	HOME PHONE			
WORK PHONE	WORK PHONE			
EMAIL	EMAIL			
ate: New Association Member 🔲 Renewal				
Please indicate your preference for receiving correspondence notices, etc.	from the Association for s	such items as the newsletter, meeting		
☐ Email ☐ Door mail				
Association dues are \$25 annually. All memberships expire or	Please note: We send out neighbor- hood notices via email. If you provide your email address(es), you will receive these notices. We also send out notices about			
The Association is always looking for volunteers. Please indic				
<ul><li>□ Membership</li><li>□ Special Events</li></ul>		lost and found pets. If you have any questions or concerns, please send us an email.		
☐ Crime Watch		piease send us an eman.		
☐ Newsletter				
□ Newsletter Distribution				
<ul><li>□ Block Captain</li><li>□ Other skills/interests</li></ul>				
Please send your \$25 check payable to:				

For WNA Use Only

Check No. \_

Summer 2012

PO Box 231473

Woodmere Neighborhood Association

Montgomery, Alabama 36123